

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

The Regional Library officially serves Williamsburg and James City County residents as a result of a regional contract implemented in 1977.

In addition to an extensive collection of hardbound and paperback books, the Library circulates musical and instructional audiotapes and books on tape for adults and children. There are very special collections for adults who are just acquiring reading skills (ABE) and for those to whom English is a second language (ESL). The video collection, on VHS only, contains feature films for adults and children as well as instructional and cultural tapes. A librarian is on duty at all times to assist with reference, research, and information services including interlibrary loans. The book van delivers home service to outlying communities of the County, to the jail, and to nursing homes and the home-bound. The Children's Department, with its own amphitheater, conducts six story ours per week, many worthwhile programs and classes throughout the year and maintains a special Dial-A-Story by phone. The Arts Center offers a concert series, a free weekly film series, several art exhibits and a variety of events. The 268-seat theater, two meeting rooms, and lobby gallery are available for rental to the general public. In July 1996, a new library facility opened in Norge, and is also managed by the Williamsburg Regional Library.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	FY 98 Budget	FY 99 Budget	FY 00 Budget
Regional Library and Arts Center	\$ 2,253,049	\$ 2,557,734	\$ 2,807,061
Total Regional Library Budget			
	FY 98 Projected	FY 99 Projected	FY 00 Projected
County	\$ 2,253,049	\$ 2,557,734	\$ 2,807,061
City	588,122	536,500	536,500
Other	659,638	676,137	693,032
Total	\$ 3,500,809	\$ 3,770,371	\$ 4,036,593

BUDGET COMMENTS

The proposed funding for the Regional Library provides for the operation of both the Williamsburg and Norge branches. The Library requested funding for an overall merit increase of 6 percent, along with market adjustments for certain positions. The proposed funding level represents an increase of 13.5 percent from FY 1998, and is intended to allow the Library to provide additional staff hours and operating costs to meet the needs of the expanded Williamsburg library, some adjustments to the Library's compensation plan, and an overall merit increase of 4 percent.

The total County contribution of \$2,557,734 does not fully fund the Library's request; it is \$310,495 short of the \$2,868,229 requested by the Regional Library Board. The City/County percentage is calculated on the basis of FY 1997 circulation, and results in the following funding percentages: City –

17 percent; County – 83 percent. The City's contribution is based on the minimum required by the current contract. The City may, however, appropriate additional funds.